

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A pretreatment kit for saliva comprising
(A) an aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide having a concentration of 0.01 to 10 mol/L,
(B) an aqueous solution of tartaric acid and/or citric acid having a concentration of 0.01 to 3 mol/L, and
(C) a nonionic surface active agent and/or an amphoteric surface active agent,
the component (C) being mixed with at least one of the components (A) and (B), or being provided separately from the components (A) and (B), and
at least one substance selected from the group consisting of sodium chloride, potassium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, magnesium sulfate and manganese sulfate being contained in at least one of the components (A), (B) and (C) in an amount of 5 to 25% by weight.
2. A pretreatment kit for saliva as claimed in claim 1, wherein (D) tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane is mixed with at least one of the components (A), (B) and (C).
3. A pretreatment kit for saliva comprising

(A) an aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide having a concentration of 0.01 to 10 mol/L,

(B) an aqueous solution of tartaric acid and/or citric acid having a concentration of 0.01 to 3 mol/L,

(C) a nonionic surface active agent and/or an amphoteric surface active agent, and

(D) an aqueous solution containing tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane,

the component (C) being mixed with at least one of the components (A), (B) and (D), or being provided separately from the components (A), (B) and (D), and

at least one substance selected from the group consisting of sodium chloride, potassium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, magnesium sulfate and manganese sulfate being contained in at least one of the components (A), (B), (C) and (D) in an amount of 5 to 25% by weight.

4. A pretreatment kit for saliva as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the nonionic surface active agent as the component (C) is one kind or a mixture of two or more kinds selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol mono-octylphenyl ether, n-octyl- β -D-glucoside, n-heptyl- β -D-thioglucoside, n-octyl- β -D-thioglucoside, nonylphenoxy

polyethoxyethanol and polyoxyethylene sorbitan monooleate.

5. A pretreatment kit for saliva as claimed in one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the amphoteric surface active agent as the component (C) is one kind or a mixture of two or more kinds selected from the group consisting of CHAPS (3-(3-cholamide-propyl)-dimethylammonio)-1-propane sulfonate) and CHAPSO (3-(3-cholamide-propyl)-dimethylammonio)-1-hydroxy propanesulfonate).

6. A pretreatment method for saliva in identification and quantitative determination of mutans streptococci by immunochromatography comprising steps of

mixing at least one substance selected from the group consisting of sodium chloride, potassium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, magnesium sulfate and manganese sulfate with at least one of (A) an aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide having a concentration of 0.01 to 10 mol/L, (B) an aqueous solution of tartaric acid and/or citric acid having a concentration of 0.01 to 3 mol/L, and (C) a nonionic

surface active agent and/or an amphoteric surface active agent, in an amount of 5 to 25% by weight; and mixing the components (A), (B) and (C) by dropping in an arbitrary order.

7. A pretreatment method for saliva as claimed in claim 6, wherein (D) tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane is mixed in at least one of the components (A), (B) and (C), and the components (A), (B) and (C) are mixed by dropping in such an order that the component (A) is in contact with the component (B) in the presence of the component (D).

8. A pretreatment method for saliva in identification and quantitative determination of mutans streptococci by immunochromatography comprising steps of

mixing at least one substance selected from the group consisting of sodium chloride, potassium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, magnesium sulfate and manganese sulfate with at least one of (A) an aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide having a concentration of 0.01 to 10 mol/L and (B) an aqueous solution of tartaric acid and/or citric acid having a concentration of 0.01 to 3 mol/L, in an amount of 5 to 25% by weight;

mixing (C) a nonionic surface active agent and/or an amphoteric surface active agent in at least one of the components (A) and (B); and

mixing the components (A) and (B) by dropping in an arbitrary order.

9. A pretreatment method for saliva as claimed in claim 8, wherein (D) tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane is mixed in at least one of the components (A) and (B), and the components (A) and (B) are mixed by dropping in an arbitrary order.

10. A pretreatment method for saliva in identification and quantitative determination of mutans streptococci by immunochromatography comprising steps of

mixing at least one substance selected from the group consisting of sodium chloride, potassium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, magnesium sulfate and manganese sulfate with at least one of (A) an aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide having a concentration of 0.01 to 10 mol/L, (B) an aqueous solution of tartaric acid and/or citric acid having a concentration of 0.01 to 3 mol/L, (C) a nonionic surface active agent and/or an amphoteric surface

active agent, and (D) tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane, in an amount of 5 to 25% by weight; and

mixing the components (A), (B), (C) and (D) by dropping in such an order that the component (A) is in contact with the component (B) in the presence of the component (D).

11. A pretreatment method for saliva as claimed in claim 10, wherein the component (A), (B) and (D), at least one of which is mixed with the component (C), are mixed by dropping in such an order that the component (A) is in contact with the component (B) in the presence of the component (D).